



Water Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona

NEWS RELEASE

1110 West Washington, Suite 290 • Phoenix, Arizona 85007 • www.azwifa.gov

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Contact: Tiffany Troidl, Communications Director: (602) 364-1314

WIFA Chairman Steve Owens Announces 2005 Drinking Water and Sewer Loan Request Lists

PHOENIX –Water Infrastructure Finance Authority (WIFA) of Arizona Chairman Steve Owens announced today the availability of the final 2005 intended use plans (IUPs) for the state's Drinking Water Revolving Fund and Clean Water Revolving Fund.

WIFA received over 78 applications requesting nearly \$411 million in wastewater and drinking water financial assistance for the 2005 funding cycle.

"The WIFA Board will fund as many communities as possible through available resources, but the level of requests underscores the need for Arizona's fair share of dollars," said Owens, who is also director of the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality. "We are working to try to increase Arizona's federal funds."

Eleven of the project funding requests WIFA received are arsenic related and total \$15.2 million.

"Many of Arizona's drinking water systems still have a lot of work to do to comply with new federal arsenic standards that must be met by Jan. 23, 2006," added Owens. "They need to move forward to complete these projects."

The state currently receives about \$16 million in annual allocations from Congress for both revolving funds, although it can leverage that amount through its bonding activity.

Interested parties may download the IUPs from WIFA's Web site at www.azwifa.gov. Written requests may be addressed to WIFA, 1110 W. Washington, Suite 290, Phoenix, AZ 85007.

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ABOUT THE WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCE AUTHORITY OF ARIZONA

The Water Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona maintains and improves water quality in Arizona by providing communities and private water systems with access to low-interest financial assistance and technical assistance needed for basic water infrastructure. WIFA's funds are capitalized by contributions from the US Congress and the state of Arizona. As a leader in water infrastructure finance, WIFA has become a premier financial institution both in Arizona and nationally. For more information, please visit WIFA's Web site www.azwifa.gov.